

GULF COAST COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY, INC.

**HEAD START
PARENT HANDBOOK**



**VINCE R. MORROW, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
GLORIA TAYLOR, INTERIM HEAD START DIRECTOR**

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GULFPORT, MS 39502**

(228) 896-1409

GCCAA, Inc. Head Start Program
Parent Handbook
2012.2013



Head Start Is A Great Place To Be!

Helping Hands Shaping Tomorrow

Notice of Nondiscrimination

GCCAA Head Start, Inc. Head Start Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities.

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Robert V. Morrow, Interim Executive Director

22 de Mayo, 2012



Queridos Padres de Familia,

Bienvenidos al año escolar 2011-2012 del Programa de Head Start del Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc ;Esperamos siempre con ansias ese primer día de clases cuando finalmente tendremos la oportunidad de conocer y pasar tiempo con su hijo (a)! Esperamos tener todo un año de compañerismo con ustedes durante todo el año escolar.

El éxito de su niño(a) en Head Start es crucial para su futuro escolar. Es el deseo de esta Agencia asociarse con los padres para hacer que el Programa de Head Start sea todo un éxito para cada niño y familia. Participe seguido como voluntario y así conozca los maestros de su hijo(a), su salón de clases, y sus compañeritos.

La Agencia ha preparado este Manual con la intención de mantenerlo informado acerca del Programa, filosofía educacional, pólizas y procedimientos. Es importante de que lea este manual y así pueda entender como operamos y si compartimos el mismo punto de vista. Alguna pregunta que tenga, no dude en contactar al centro de Head Start a donde asiste su hijo (a) o a la oficina administrativa.

Esperamos su participación y apoyo.

Sinceramente,

Robert V. Morrow
Interim Executive Director



May 14, 2012

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to *GCCAA Head Start!* We are happy that you have entrusted us with your child as he or she attends our program.

You join the parents of over 1368 children, ages 3 & 4, who qualify for Head Start throughout Harrison County. We serve children and families through Center-based option, services provided to children in a classroom setting, 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. 10% of our slots must be made available for children with disabilities.

Our desire is to assist you and your family to become involved with the education of your child at a very early age. You are your child's first teacher and you will continue to be their "primary teacher" and role model throughout their lives. You, your child's teacher and the Family Services Staff will work together as a team at *GCCAA Head Start* to provide opportunities for you and your family.

You are a vital member of Policy Council and Parent Meetings. Policy Council is an advisory board with Performance Standard requirements. Meals and childcare are provided at the site of the meeting. Parent Meetings is an opportunity for training, fundraising, meeting new people and networking. Refreshments and childcare are also provided at Parent Meetings.

Thank you for trusting *GCCAA Head Start's* staff with the care of your child. We hope you have a pleasant and enjoyable year with your child and staff. Be involved with your child - show them that education is important!

This handbook is designed to provide you with information about our program. We hope that you will use it as a reference source throughout the school year.

Sincerely,

Gloria Taylor,
Interim Head Start Director

G.C.C.A.A., Inc. Head Start Philosophy

We believe in the unique value, dignity, respect, and equality of all human beings.

We believe in dedicated commitment to equal partnership between parents and staff.

We believe that the quality of life is affected by the interaction between people and their environments.

We believe that education can empower people to make decisions about their own lives.

We believe in maintaining confidentiality for all people.

We believe in respect for and appreciation of diversity.

We believe in the rights and privileges of all people through the provision of opportunities for growth and development.

We believe in the capacity of people to change.

We believe in providing developmentally appropriate programming.

We believe in an interdisciplinary approach in addressing issues related to children and families.

We believe in working with people to empower them to overcome obstacles.

We believe in lifelong learning for all people.

ABOUT GCCAA, INC. HEAD START

GCCAA, Inc. Head Start is a comprehensive child development program that serves children age three and four years old and their families. It is child focused and has the overall goal of increasing the social competence of young children primarily from low-income families. School readiness competencies take into account the interrelation of social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development.

Head Start services are also family-centered, following the belief that children develop in their parental and cultural environment. This is based on the principle that the parents are the first educators and nurturers of their children. This principle defines parent involvement as the original foundation of the Head Start Program. Head Start also, offers family members opportunities and support for growth and change, with the belief that families can identify their own strengths, needs, and interests.

GCCAA, Inc. Head Start is committed to:

- Establishing a supportive learning environment for children, parents and staff.
- Recognizing that the Head Start community has roots in many cultures.
- Understanding that empowerment of families occurs when program governance is a responsibility shared by families, governing bodies and staff.
- Enforcing a comprehensive health plan for children, families and staff to insure that basic health needs are met.
- Respecting the importance of an individual's development.
- Building communities in which children and families are treated as individuals while maintaining a sense of belonging to the holistic group.
- Developing relationships with the whole community.
- Developing a continuum of care and support to families and children during their Head Start experience.

Reauthorization of the Head Start Act

Public Law 110-134-December 12, 2007

The purpose of the reauthorization of the Head Start Act is to promote the school readiness of low-income children by enhancing their cognitive, creative arts, and emotional development.

Head Start must provide a learning environment that supports children in language, literacy, mathematics, science, social and emotional functioning, creative arts, physical skills, and approaches to learning; and through the provision to low-income children and their families of health, educational, nutritional, social, and other services that are determined, based on family needs assessments, to be necessary.

Head Start Facilities

The GCCAA, Inc. Head Start Program strives to meet the challenge of providing quality facilities that enhances the community in which it is located. GCCAA, Inc. Head Start is committed to maintain facilities that are safe, clean, conducive to children learning and meeting the needs of the total family by “Serving Today...Preserving Tomorrow.”

The administration of the Agency’s activities has been delegated to:

Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc.

Robert V. Morrow, Interim Executive Director

500 24th Street

Post Office Box 519

Gulfport, Mississippi 39502-0519

Telephone: (228) 896-1409

Fax: (228) 897-9075

GCCAA, Inc. Head Start operates seven (7) centers throughout Harrison County that house its’ enrollment of 1368 children.

Head Start Program

Gloria Taylor, Interim Head Start Director

500 24th Street

Post Office Box 519

Gulfport, Mississippi 39502-0519

The day-to-day operations of the Head Start Program and administrative support are administered by a management team of staff and support staff:

Support Staff

Job Title	Location	Phone Number
Program Operation Manager	GCCAA Main Office	(228) 896-1409
Senior Administrative Assistant	GCCAA Main Office	(228) 896-1409
Systems Administrator	GCCAA Main Office	(228) 896-1409
Health Specialist	Isiah Frederick Head Start Center	(228) 863-3318 ext. 121
Nutrition Specialist	Isiah Frederick Head Start Center	(228) 822-0755 ext. 102
ERSEA Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, & Attendance]	Isiah Frederick Head Start Center	(228) 822-0755
CAIO Specialist [Curriculum, Assessment, Individualization, Outcome]	Linda Lyons Head Start Center	(228) 539-2328
Special Initiative Coordinator	Linda Lyons Head Start Center	(228) 539-2328
Transportation/Facilities Specialist	Head Start Warehouse	(228) 897-5990
Transportation & Facilities Clerk	Head Start Warehouse	(228) 897-5990
Family and Community Partnerships Specialist		(228) 701-2636
Mental Health & Disability Children Family Service Worker	Linda Lyons Head Start Center	(228) 539-2328
Bi-Lingual Assistant	Harry C. Tartt	(228) 864-2670
Human Resources	GCCAA Main Office	(228) 896-1409

Head Start Centers

Center Name	Address	Phone Number
Blanche Saucier	23160 Hwy. 49, North Saucier, MS 39564	(228) 832-0948
Turkey Creek	14175 Rippy Road Gulfport, MS 39501	(228)575-9646
Harry C. Tartt	1906 17 th Avenue Gulfport, MS 39501	(228) 864-2670
Doyle Moffett	6506 Kiln Cuevas Road Pass Christian, MS 39571	(228) 255-4225
Isiah Frederick	3410 Jackson Street Gulfport, MS 39501	(228) 822-0755
Linda Lyons	13523 Dedeaux Road Gulfport, MS 39503	(228) 539-2328
Gilbert Mason	4221 Popp's Ferry Road Biloxi, MS 39540	(228) 396-9466



Program Options:

Center Based

August-May

Monday – Friday 8:00am -2:30pm



Ways You Can Help at Head Start:

Help in Adult Activities

- Participate as a member of the Policy Council
- Participate as an officer or member of the parent committee
- Attend parent meetings
- Contact other parents
- Assist in the classroom or office
- Provide child care while parents attend meetings or workshops
- Help to facilitate parent meetings
- Provide ideas for activities and field trips

What's in it for you?

- Learn new skills
- Make new friends
- Gain confidence
- Become aware of community resources
- Build your support system
- Get involved with fun activities with other parents
- Learn job/employment skills
- Become involved in community activities

Help Kids in the Classroom

- Read or tell a story
- Mentor a child
- Chaperone on field trips
- Assist children in classroom/playground activities
- Work with a small group
- Supervise on the playground
- Attend special events
- Exchange ideas



FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

The primary role of the Family and Community Partnership staff is to support families in their growth and development. The Head Start program serves as a link between families and the community. Every family enrolled in the GCCAA Head Start Program is assigned a Children Family Service Worker who will:

- Assist your family in obtaining health requirement for HEAD Start attendance.
- Support your family in setting and reaching goals and overcoming challenges.
- Inform you of community resources and how to access them.
- Encourage you to volunteer in the program.
- Transport you to scheduled appointment when needed.
- Help you in crisis or emergency situations-please call in times of crisis.
- Help you obtain special Head Start services, such as helping learn about nutrition, good health, appropriate childhood development & more.
- Work with you on your child's absenteeism and develop a plan to ensure good attendance.
- Provide information about early childhood development.

Your Children Family Service Worker will meet with your family on at least twice a year in a home visit. These home visits are to be in addition to the two that are provided by teachers. The purpose of these visits is to build a relationship with you that lets us work together to help your family build upon its strengths and identify areas for support and growth. All families are encouraged to develop at least one Family Partnership Agreement goal with staff to work toward achieving personal and /or family goals. Visits will be scheduled at times that are convenient for the parents and staff.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE

- Head Start staff complies and distributes a Community Recourse Guide to all enrolled families
- The guide is a comprehensive listing of community services, agencies, programs and services available to individuals, families and children in Harrison County.
- You will receive a Community Resources Guide at you Initial Home Visit
- Your Children Family Service Worker will help you locate resources and provide confidential referrals to agencies providing services, such as food stamps, clothing , employment assistance, housing, mental health , domestic violence, substance abuse, counseling, etc.

REFERRALS

Referrals requesting services for children and their families may come from Head Start staff and /or our agency to o other community agencies. Head Start must receive Release of Information authorization from parents/guardian before sharing and information with any outside community agency .Any information is considered confidential. Children Family Service Worker will follow up with families about the satisfaction with referrals

CONFIDENTIALITY

All family information and children's files are kept strictly confidential. Only authorized Head Start personnel have access to files. Head Start is obligated to receive written consent from parents, prior to sharing information with anyone.

RECORDS

GCCAA Head Start Policy regarding official child records is as follows:

Copy of Records

1. Parents are legal guardian who wish to review or obtain copies of their child's file should contact the ERSEA Specialist to make a request and complete the necessary paperwork. This information will be processed within 3 working days.
2. All request to copy child. Folder will be processed within two (2) weeks.

No record will be released to any outside agency without written consent of a child's parents and/ guardian.

ATTENDANCE

Each family receives an attendance policy with their orientation information. Children should be in attendance every day. The Head Start Program must maintain no less than 85% of attendance every day to be in compliance with its funding grant.

The Parent/legal guardian must notify the Center Manager, Teacher, or CFSW when a child is going to be absent, why the child is absent and the expected return date. Consistent attendance is essential to your child's progress in school. If you do not contact us regarding absence(s), a staff member will contact you to discuss the issue. Please keep us informed of illnesses or emergencies that will prevent your child from attending classes. If a child is absent for three (3) or more consecutive days without a doctor's excuse or the parents cannot be reached, the child's slot will be forfeited and the child will be dropped from the roll.

Funded enrollment must be maintained throughout the school year. When it is determined that a vacancy exists, no more than 30 calendar days may lapse before the vacancy is filled. No child will be enrolled if only 60 days or less remain in the program year.





TRANSITION

Performance Standard 1304.41

In addition to classroom transition, our program implements transition into **Head Start** and also from **Head Start to the local education agency or to other child care settings**. Transition is addressed with activities and materials that allow for smooth progression to the next level of learning. The goal of our transition activities is to familiarize each child with a new environment and form a foundation for school readiness and later school success.

Before the end of the school year, public school teachers and child care staff visit the Head Start Centers. Head Start teachers of four-year olds, who will be five (5) on or before September 1st, will visit the public schools and the children, who will transition to Kindergarten in the fall, visit their new schools to familiarize themselves with the school setting.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS: (Transition)

- ✚ Teach your child to respect themselves and others.
- ✚ Be totally involved in your child's learning.
- ✚ Have your child properly immunized against certain illnesses, diseases, etc. identified by the State Department of Health.
- ✚ Have the necessary proof of age documents at the time of registration (entering school for the first time).
- ✚ Have your child at school on time every day.
- ✚ See to it that your child's appearance at school – reflects neatness, cleanliness, and self-respect.
- ✚ Sign an agreement that states that you will read to your children, participate in school activities, and learn about healthy lifestyles.
- ✚ Visit the classroom or school ahead of time.
- ✚ Talk to your child about his/her feelings.
- ✚ Talk about transition in a positive way.





CHILD HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES Performance Standard 1304.20

Head Start shall provide a comprehensive health program for children, and families. Within the first forty-five (45) days of entry, children are screened for developmental, sensory, and behavior concerns. A complete medical and dental exam is also required.

All children must have an up to date physical and dental examination. It is the parent's ultimate responsibility to schedule these examinations and provide the documentation to their assigned Child Family Service Worker (CFSW). We strongly encourage examinations to be completed prior to school opening. Further evaluations may be needed and a follow up plan implemented. New or recurring health concerns should be reported to the health staff, CFSW or teacher. Any observed health concerns noted by Head Start staff throughout the school year, will be discussed with the parents. This will allow referrals to be submitted to the appropriate service providers for ongoing health care.

Parents must be involved in health care by ensuring your child has a current immunization record.

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS ILL:

Please do not bring or send your child to school when he or she is ill. If your child becomes ill at the center, you or your emergency contact person will be called to pick up the child. Please make sure the emergency contact information is always current.

If you know or suspect that your child has a contagious disease, please notify your child's teacher or Children Family Service Worker. Your child must have a doctor's note to return to school. Parents will be notified when children are exposed to communicable diseases at the Head Start Center.

ADMINISTERING MEDICATION (by Head Start Staff):

Prescribed medication will be given with the proper documentation (physician's order with side effects and parental consent). First dosage must be given at home and if possible, administration schedule should be arranged to give all dosages at home. You may obtain the Medication Administration Form from your assigned CFSW or center manager; please return the completed form to the same.

NOTE: Parents, please do not send any medication on the bus with your child.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Make sure that your child gets enough sleep and rest.
2. Be sure that your child gets to school on time everyday.
3. Send no food or snacks with your child. Two nutritious meals and a snack are provided daily. i.e Birthdays
4. Clearly label your child's supplies and outer clothing. Head Start will not be held responsible for personal items brought to school by the children.
5. If your child expresses fears about school, discuss these fears but be reassuring.
6. Send a change of clothing to your child's teacher in case your child has an accident.
7. Show continued interest in your child's school life. E.g. ask "What did you do in school today?" and listen to the reply.
8. Report to the teacher any upsetting experiences that you think will help the teacher understand the child.
9. Help your child look forward to the happy days of Head Start.
10. Visit the Head Start Center often and attend the monthly parent meetings.
11. Always have your current emergency numbers available in your child's Classroom.

<p>Fever over 100 degrees within the last 24 hours Vomiting more than twice in 24 hours Diarrhea Earache Red eyes with discharge Sores that are draining, open or appear infected Lice or nits Not feeling well enough to participate in school</p>	<p>NEEDS TO STAY AT HOME TODAY</p>
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<p>Runny Nose Cough Rash Is not acting like himself or herself Been to the doctor, hospital or emergency room recently</p>	<p>CHECK WITH YOUR CHILD'S CENTER MANAGER, TEACHER OR CHILDREN FAMILY SERVICE WORKER</p>
<p>Feeling well today Has been well for the last 24 hours</p>	<p>HAVE A GREAT DAY AT SCHOOL!</p>





EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES Performance Standard 1304.21

The Head Start Program has federally mandated Performance Standards and positive child outcomes which require that certain goals be met and maintained for each child. These describe the strategies that are required in early childhood development and health services, family and community partnerships, program design and management, transportation, and health and safety to keep track of children's progress.

Children learn and develop at different rates and in different ways. An outcome is not a curriculum or assessment but describes the expectations derived from the curriculum or assessment used. As per the Head Start Performance Standards, the involvement and role of families in the program is very important. Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc., Head Start Program's focus is on empowering families to take an active role in their children's development and learning.

The GCCAA, Inc. Head Start Program uses the Creative Curriculum by Teaching Strategies, which is a comprehensive curriculum linked to ongoing assessment based on theory and research in child development. It is based on developmentally appropriate practices for the stages of a child's development and growth.

INTRODUCTION TO THE CREATIVE CURRICULUM AT GCCAA HEAD START

The curriculum is a written plan for education staff to use for guidance and assessing children's learning.

The framework of the curriculum consists of five (5) components:

How children develop and learn: Each child is unique and has different learning styles.

The Learning Environment: The structure of the classroom makes it possible for teaching staff to teach and children to learn.

What Children Learn: Children learn literacy, math, science, social studies, the arts, and technology through daily experiences.

The Teacher's Role: Teachers interact with children in order to plan activities for each child individually and in group settings.

The Family's Role: Teaching staff and families form a partnership and work together to support children's development and learning.

Daily observations are documented for each child. These observations assist teaching staff in determining your child's level of development. Once the teaching staff determines the appropriate level, activities are provided to support your child in achieving the next step.

TEACHING STAFF AND FAMILY COMMUNICATIONS FROM GCCAA, INC., HEAD START

The teaching staff at Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc. would like to take the opportunity to get to know the children's families. Our initial contact normally occurs during the enrollment process. We value the involvement of our families and intend to build a relationship and communicate, as well as involve family members by using the following written forms:

Parent Sign In/Out Sheet: Parents are required to sign in at the center office before entering the classrooms. A sign in sheet is also located in each classroom for parents to sign children in at arrival time and out at departure time. Head Start Centers open at 8:00 a.m. We will accept students up to 9:00 a.m. if the parent contacts the center with an excused tardy. (**Please see late arrival policy**)

Child Enrollment Form: This form consists of child information, parental information, emergency contact, child pick-up authorization, special needs and medical information.

Volunteer forms: This form will be filled out each time parents, guardians, etc. visit one of the facilities, especially the classroom. This form is required and aids the agency with funding for the Head Start Program.

Home Visit Form: One of the best ways to get to know families is through home visits. A minimum of two (2) home visits will be conducted by teaching staff. These visits will be scheduled in advance in order for families to make necessary arrangements to meet with the teaching staff. This form is used to share information about your child's progress and solicit parent's advice about their child.

Progress and Planning Report: This form is used to discuss information as it relates to your child's social/emotional, physical, language and cognitive developmental levels. A section is also provided for families and teaching staff comments, observations and the next step at school and home.



Disability/Mental Health Services Performance Standard 1304.24/1308



It is the policy of Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc. Head Start Program to actively recruit children with disabilities and to maintain ten percent of its funded enrollment for children professionally identified with special needs. The agency will promote a team approach to deliver comprehensive services to every Head Start child with a disability and their families. Collaborative efforts between the GCCAA, Inc. Head Start program, local education agencies, and other community providers will be established to provide early identification, evaluation, and intervention services for children with special needs.

GCCAA, Inc. is dedicated to educating/training parents about disabilities and encourages involvement in their children's early development. Head Start will ensure that children with disabilities receive the special education and related services needed for children with physical, cognitive, language, social, and emotional development needs. Head Start will also ensure that inclusion in a regular preschool setting is conducted in the least restrictive learning environment.

Head Start extends its services to all children with disabilities including children that are severely disabled. Head Start is committed to providing individualized care and guidance to children while helping them reach their full developmental potential. Each child is considered a unique person with previous experiences, current needs and potential for future growth. Our teaching staff is trained to ensure that all goals and objectives indicated in the child's Individualized Education Plan are carried out on a daily basis by planning classroom activities that are developmentally appropriate for children with special needs.

Children with disabilities and their families receive the full range of Head Start services. The Head Start approach is well suited to helping children who have special needs but not limited to the following:

- Health Impairments (sickle cell, severe asthma, etc.)
- Emotional/Behavior Disorders (ADD, ADHD, ODD)
- Speech and Language Impairments
- Developmentally Delayed
- Hearing Impairment, Including Deafness
- Orthopedic Impairment (Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy)
- Visual Impairment, Including Blindness
- Autism
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Mental Retardation
- Serious Emotional Disturbance
- Learning Disabilities

Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Disorders Are Real

Children can have mental, emotional, and behavioral problems that are real, painful, and costly. These problems, often called "disorders," are sources of stress for children and their families, schools, and communities.

The number of children and their families who are affected by mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders is significant. It is estimated that as many as one in five children and adolescents may have a mental health disorder that can be identified and require treatment.

Mental health disorders in children and adolescents are caused by biology, environment, or a combination of the two. Examples of biological factors are genetics, chemical imbalances in the body, and damage to the central nervous system, such as a head injury. Many environmental factors also can affect mental health, including exposure to violence, extreme stress, and the loss of an important person.

Families and communities, working together, can help children and adolescents with mental disorders. A broad range of services is often necessary to meet the needs of these young people and their families.

The Disorders

Below is a list of particular mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders that may occur during childhood and adolescence. All can have a serious impact on a child's overall health. Some disorders are more common than others, and conditions range from mild to severe. Often, a child has more than one disorder (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1999).

Anxiety Disorders
Bipolar Disorder
Attention-deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
Learning Disorders
Conduct Disorder
Eating Disorder
Autism
Schizophrenia



CHILD NUTRITION



Performance Standard 1304.23

The objective of Head Start's Child Nutrition Program is to promote child wellness by providing nutrition services that supplement and complement those of the home. Head Start assists families in meeting each child's nutritional needs and in establishing good eating habits that nurture healthy development and promote life-long well being. Nutrition services include:

- Child nutrition assessment
- WIC Certification
- Height and weight measurements
- Effective dental hygiene practices (daily teeth brushing)
- Family Style meal setting
- Meals that meet USDA/HHS Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the USDA Food Guide Pyramid
- Two meals –Breakfast/Lunch and a Snack (Snacks are used to supplement nutritional needs that may not be met through regular meals)

Breakfast..... 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Lunch11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Snack2:00 p.m. -- 2:15 p.m.

- Serving a variety of foods
- Not using food as punishment or reward
- Sufficient time is allowed for each child to eat
- Accommodating family preferences and special diets as recommended by a Registered Dietitian/Licensed Nutritionist or Registered Nurse
- Involving children in food related activities (setting table, clean-up, making place mats and table centerpieces, cooking experiences)
- Providing wellness, safety and nutrition education for families and children

Parent Involvement:

- Menu planning
- Assisting with classroom nutrition activities
- Assisting with dental hygiene activities
- Serving as volunteers

Head Start conforms to all Mississippi laws, regulations and standards in operating nutrition services. In addition, Head Start contracts only with food service vendors that are licensed in accordance with state and local laws.

To ensure the safety and protection of children, all food is prepared by the nutrition staff and **NO FOOD** can be brought into the centers. Each month, a birthday cake will be prepared to celebrate all children's birthdays for that month. **Holidays will be celebrated by means other than food.** Head Start staff is responsible for ensuring that holidays are celebrated appropriately.





TRANSPORTATION Performance Standard -1310

The GCCAA, Inc. Head Start Program continues its transportation policy of **NO DOOR-TO-DOOR PICK UP SERVICES**. Assigned bus stops will be in designated areas and will run daily, once in the morning, and once in the afternoon. Buses will depart from the center at 7:00 A.M. and 2:30 P.M.

A designated person will be required to meet the bus at both times. Parents and grandparents of children enrolled in the program, as well as designated persons will be required to show a picture ID each time he/she receives the child/children. If persons other than the legal guardian are to receive children from the bus, they must be listed on the application as designated persons. Children will not be released to siblings who are not at least 12 years of age.

The Head Start Program offers transportation services to children who live one mile or more from the Center. No buses are allowed to enter apartment complexes, dead end roads, or trailer parks. This is to prevent backing up situations, U-turns, and weaving through parked cars.

If for some reason your child will be absent from school, it is the responsibility of the parent to contact the center and inform the Center Manager or designated staff. All Head Start Centers have answering services.

With the establishment of pick-up/drop-off stops, it will be the responsibility of the parents to transport their children to school if the bus is missed. If no adult is at the designated bus stop in the afternoon to receive the child, it becomes the parent's responsibility to pick the child up at the center by 4:00 p.m.

If your child is not picked up by 4:00 p.m., your child will be taken to the Harrison County Family Youth Shelter in Gulfport, MS if arrangements are not made before 2:30 p.m.

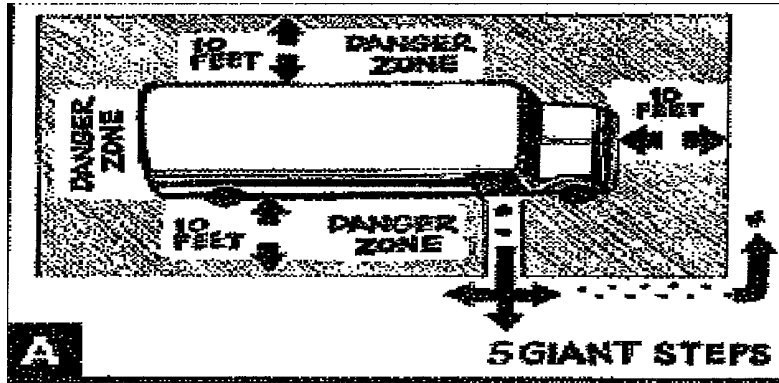
Failure to comply could result in your family being denied transportation services as well as being "terminated" from the program. The intent of this policy is to provide quality services, and to have all children at school by 8:00 a.m., to ensure that they receive the full six hours of planned activities and to have all children home safely by 4:00 p.m.

GCCAA, Inc. Head Start parents have the option to transport their children to school and pick them up at the end of the day. In the event buses are late or a breakdown occurs, parents may choose to transport their child/children to school. Should you bring your child to school, please do not drop him/her off before 8:00



Safety Rules

1. Remain at the designated bus stop with your child. The program emphasizes the importance of escorting your child/children to the bus stop. This ensures safety.
2. Wait for the bus in a safe place—away from the road.
3. An adult **must** accompany a child while crossing the street at all times. Parents **must** use proper street crossing procedures: **Stop and look both ways** before crossing the road to ensure there are no vehicles coming.
4. Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop. The Monitor **must** vacate the bus completely before children approach him/her.
5. If you are waiting on the opposite side (across the street from the bus stop), wait for the Monitor to completely cross the street before releasing your child to him/her.
6. All children must be seated immediately and remain in their seats, keeping hands, arms and head inside the bus at all times.
7. Once your child boards the bus, step away from the bus immediately and wait for the bus to pull off before you leave. If you need to cross to the opposite side of the street, walk approximately three feet away from the front of the bus (this ensures that the driver and you can see each other). Stop at the driver's side of the bus and watch for the driver to signal you that it is safe to continue crossing the street.
8. Know the Danger Zones of the bus. They are as follows: Both sides of the bus, front and back and within three feet around the bus. Never walk behind or beside a school bus. These are blind zones and the driver will not be able to see you.
9. If you should drop something, **do not** pick it up until the bus has pulled away or until you have instructions from the driver to retrieve it.
10. Food, toys, backpacks, animals and glass containers are prohibited at all times on any GCCAA, Inc. Head Start school bus.



PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

Young children are most likely to be hit because they:

- hurry to get on or off the bus
- act before they think and have little experience with traffic
- assume motorists will see them and will wait for them to cross
- don't always stay within the bus driver's sight
- drop something as they get off the bus and run into the path of the bus to pick it up

Parents have an equally strong role in helping to reinforce safety procedures with their children every day the parent accompanies the child to the designated bus stop. Walking with your child can be a special start of his/her day. It is also a period in which parents should help their children understand the potential dangers of fast moving traffic and how to safely make their way through their surroundings.

Parents should be with their children at all times when allowing them to play in the street or road, teaching them to always be on the lookout for on-coming traffic. Children get excited when they see their bus approaching and may try to rush toward it. Parents need to help children learn to wait. This includes showing your child what is a safe distance to stand away from the curb. Only when the bus has come to a full stop and opens the door should a child be permitted to approach.

A child who is required to cross a street must be accompanied by either the bus monitor or another adult (45CFR 1310.31 (a)). This situation is monitored by the bus driver as children and adults move around the front of the bus in crossing the street. Through looking and listening, children develop their skills and begin to understand their environment.

Children should know the danger zones around the bus. A bus driver's vision is limited on a bus. By use of the mirrors, the driver can see the sides of the bus. This means parents and the transportation staff must be strict about enforcing the danger zones. Children are never to walk or cross a street behind a bus. In addition, children should understand the wheels as well as the underside of a bus can be very dangerous. Children are often curious and may want to explore or reach for items that catch their eyes. Stressing these danger areas at home, around the family car, and on the school bus helps children learn to stay away from the danger zones, **SEE EXHIBIT "A"**. A child may challenge following rules, and they may ignore their own safety to play in a danger zone. In order to support safety procedures, the child will need everyone's guidance, including the teachers, transportation staff, and the parents.

Late Arrival /Departure Policy

Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc. – Head Start Program begins at 8:00 a.m. and children are expected to arrive at that time. We recognize that there may be occasional mornings when this is not possible (example – Doctor or Dentist appointment). Parents or guardians are responsible for notifying the center in advance of these situations in order to plan for your child’s late arrival. **This may occur occasionally, but not on a regular basis.** Establishing a consistent daily routine gives your child security and assists in building a relationship between the classroom and home. Children arriving late to school do not receive the complete benefit of the program and they miss a key part of their day such as breakfast, classroom activities and planning time.

Arrival:

- ❖ Center opens at 8:00 a.m. children will not be accepted before this time. There is no supervision for children before 8:00 a.m.
- ❖ Children, who are not in the classroom by 8:30 a.m., must check in at the Center Manager’s office and receive a Late Arrival Slip before the child will be accepted into class.
- ❖ Children will not be accepted after 9:00 a.m. (unless prior arrangements for medical appointments are made with Center Manager); this will fall under the late arrival policy.

Official Departure Times:

- ❖ Car Riders – 2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- ❖ Bus Riders – 2:30 p.m. (Children that are returned to the center after the bus route is complete)

Children who are not picked up in accordance to the official departure times will fall under the late arrival policy.

Failure to follow the above mentioned procedures of official arrival and departure times will result in the following:

- 1st time:** Center Manager will give a verbal warning, child will be accepted.
- 2nd time:** CFSW will counsel parent/guardian about the late arrival policy and start an Attendance Plan, child will be accepted.
- 3rd time & Subsequent:** Parent/Guardian will be referred to CFSW and child will not be accepted.

Effects of Late Arrival:

When a child arrives late, it is very disruptive to the entire classroom environment. The child may become confused and upset when he/she arrives mid-morning and the other children are participating in activities not associated with the beginning of the day. Some children may have difficulty separating from their parents which may cause problems with transitioning into their day. For these reasons, children are expected to be at school on time and attend full class session.

Families who consistently arrive and depart late or have poor attendance may be dropped from the program and another child will be enrolled to receive the full benefits of the program.

The Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc.- Head Start Program is mandated by Federal Regulations 1305.8/Head Start Act to have an average daily attendance of 100% of the children enrolled in the program. You must notify the Teacher, Center Manager or Child Family Service Worker if your child will be absent.

Advanced notices, written excuses from parents and /or doctors will be needed for all absences



PROGRAM GOVERNANCE

Performance Standard 1304.51

Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc. is the grantee agency for the Head Start Program in Harrison County. After attending orientation, parents confirm the slots for their children and become a part of the Parent committee. The Parent Committee meets on a monthly basis at each center. No parent meeting will be set on the night of the Policy Council meeting so that there is no conflict in the communication process. In September, each center elects a representative and alternate to serve on the Policy Council and elections are held for Parent Committee Officers.

Parent Committee:

The Parent Committee meets on a monthly basis at each center. No parent meeting is set on the night of the Policy Council meeting so that there is no conflict in the communication process. In September, each center selects a representative and alternate to the Policy Council and elections are held for Parent Committee Officers.

Attending parent committee meetings provide parents with the opportunity to assist in the development of activities that address their interest and needs to support the education and healthy development of their children.

Remember: By serving on the Parent Committee and Policy Council you are a mentor and role model, as well as a resource person to all individuals that you come in contact with.

Communication:

Communication between the parents and staff is essential to ensure a strong relationship. Parents and staff will develop trust and respect at initial contact. Communication and information is provided through the following methods.

- Monthly parent and policy council meetings
- Parent workshops and training opportunities
- Self-Assessment and Planning Committee
- Parent survey



PROGRAM DESIGN & MANAGEMENT

POLICY COUNCIL: 1304.51(a) (1)

The Policy Council is the parent's voice in major program decisions including such things as recruitment, selection policy, personnel policies, budgets, and funding proposals. The Policy Council is comprised of parents and community representatives. The Policy Council meets on the second Thursday of each month.

What are the responsibilities of a Policy Council Member?

- To be informed and keep parents informed about issues regarding Head Start
- To attend meetings regularly and notify staff in advance if you are unable to attend
- To advocate for the best interests of all head start families
- To attend parent meetings and present parent concerns to the Policy Council
- To attend trainings and share information with other parents
- To work on committees that help the Head Start Program
- To become knowledgeable of laws and regulations regarding the Head Start Program

PARENT CENTER COMMITTEES: 1304.51 (b) (3)

Each year a parent center committee must be established at the center level. The parent center committee must be comprised exclusively of parents of enrolled children. Parents must meet to elect center officers early in the year if possible. Training will be provided for members of the committee. Each parent center committee must elect a parent to participate on the policy council. This committee works closely with center staff to plan center activities for themselves and their children.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT: 1304.51 (e) (1) (2)

There are many ways to become involved in the GCCAA, Inc., Head Start Program by:

- Serving on Advisory committees
- Volunteering at the Head Start centers
- Serving as an officer on parent committees
- Serving on the Policy Council
- Advocating for themselves, the community, other parents, and their children as well
- Participating in developmental screenings

- Participating in the screening of potential employees
- Advise staff in developing and implementing local program policies, activities, and services
- Collaborating with program staff in the implementation of the curriculum
- Participating in staff/parent conferences and home visits
- Getting involved in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the agency's Nutrition services
- Applying and serving in vacant job positions
- Serving on self-assessment team, budget and strategic planning committee



FATHER'S INVOLVEMENT

Performance Standard 1304.40(d) (1)

The Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc. has established a “Fatherhood Initiative Program” to involve fathers in the education of their children with the following four (4) main objectives to support the fatherhood movement.

- 1. Increases the amount of time that fathers positively interact with their children.** Because of the importance of fathers to the healthy development of their children, it is the program goal to strengthen the role of responsible and loving fathers in the lives of their children. Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc., Head Start is committed to taking a leadership role in fostering the positive involvement of fathers with their children. Studies from all sides of the philosophical spectrum have shown that children in similar situations do better on a variety of outcomes, including educational achievement, physical development and emotional health when raised with responsible, loving, involved and committed fathers who take an active role in their children’s educational environment.

- 2. Increase fathers knowledge of early childhood literacy development.** The Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc. Fatherhood Initiative Program seeks out fathers whether they are in the community, barber shop, workplace, or any public facility. The Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc. Head Start Program schedules fatherhood activities at times that work for fathers as well as bi-monthly Fatherhood trainings. Head Start Program welcomes fathers – from staff that can communicate well with fathers including posters on the wall that imply, “This is a place where a man can be comfortable spending time.” Program staff distributes information to help fathers understand the importance of their presence in the lives of their children, through education and training on early childhood literacy and development.

- 3. Increase fathers recognition of their important role.** Statistically it has been proven that children do best in life when they grow up with actively involved fathers. Whatever the measure-physical, emotional, health, educational achievement, behavior, substance abuse, crime or delinquency- children are more likely to lead healthy, productive lives when both their mother and father are actively involved in their lives in positive ways. This is because moms and dads tend to parent differently, at least in some important way their complementary parenting skills and attitudes combined give children the best environment in which to grow.

- 4. Assist fathers in developing a positive peer support system.** The Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc. Head Start Program has established a Big Dad's Club, a peer group that consists of Head Start fathers and positive males in the community. The club meets monthly to share ideas, concerns and plan Head Start activities. The Special Initiative Coordinator will implement meetings that will assist father role models, to learn about topics that will enhance their self-esteem, their overall mental health and physical well-being, as well as improve their parenting skill. The objective, during these father/male involvement meetings, is to build camaraderie within the fatherhood group by orchestrating local/community projects with fathers in our Head Start Program and the community.



IMPORTANT POLICIES



Confidentiality:

Parent's information is gathered so that Head Start can completely understand the needs of children and families and work together to meet those needs. All information obtained from you is completely confidential except for your local school district. Records will only be sent to another agency with written permission of parent or legal guardian.

Child Abuse, Neglect and Isolation:

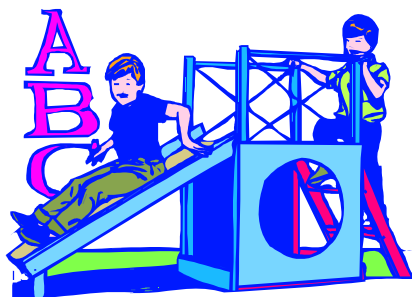
Once a suspected case of child abuse or neglect is identified, based on observation, it is the responsibility of the identifying staff person to report orally his/her finding(s) to the Department of Human Services.

The Center Manager will be informed and will make a direct observation of the child as soon as possible. A DPW 440 reporting form will be filed with the Department of Human Services. Additionally, a copy of this report will be forwarded to the Family and Community Partnerships Division Manager.

All matters and materials relating to specific cases of alleged child abuse/neglect/isolation must be kept strictly confidential.

The Head Start Director must be informed of cases of alleged child abuse/neglect/isolation at all times and kept abreast of all details. The Family and Community Partnerships Division Manager is responsible for this task.

Note: When a child has been abused before he or she comes to school, the bus driver and/or the bus monitor must report the abuse to the Department of Human Services.





HUMAN RESOURCES

Performance Standard 1304.52

The Human Resource Department strives to recruit and select qualified staff with the knowledge, skills and the experience needed to provide high quality, comprehensive, and culturally sensitive services to children and families in the Head Start Program.

Human Resources will make parents aware of job vacancies in the Head Start Program by posting notices on Parent Bulletin Boards in the centers, through Parent Center Committees and the Policy Council.

Head Start will recruit and assist parents to qualify for employment in the following ways:

- Parents who meet the minimum requirements of a vacant position, will be given preference for employment
- Parents who meet minimum requirements for substitutes will be given preference for employment in the program
- Parents will be encouraged to volunteer in the classroom to assist the teaching staff with daily activities
- Parents will be encouraged to participate in training classes offered by local agencies, consultants, and Head Start staff

TRAINING

Head Start Performance Standards mandate that we offer training throughout the program year to all staff, board, policy council members and parents. Consultants and volunteers are invited to attend training and orientation.

Part of the overall intent of training is to offer everyone who has a connection to our program the opportunity to become enriched with knowledge through on-going training and technical assistance.

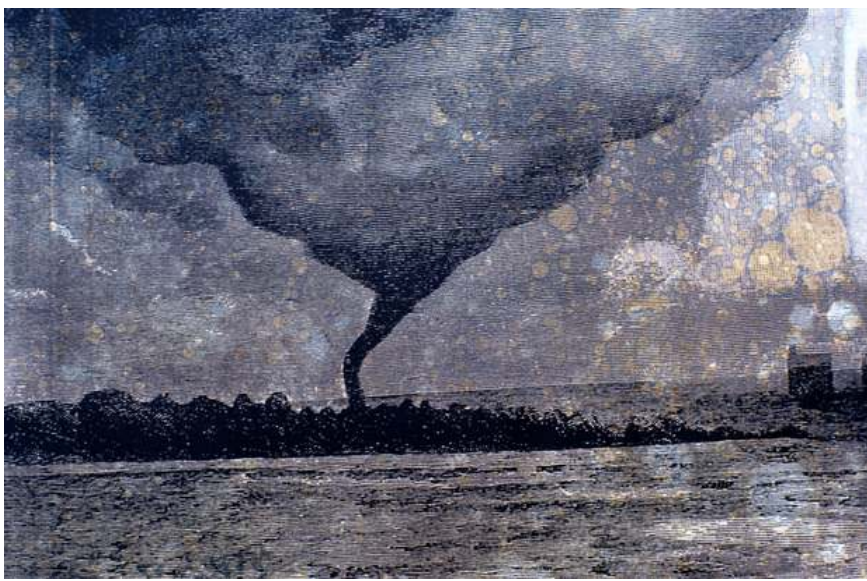
On-going training is designed to help build relationships among staff program-wide increasing communication, acquire knowledge and skills needed to better fulfill job responsibilities, and aid in maintaining the overall vision and mission of the Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc. Head Start Program...

Pre-Service training is provided at the beginning of the program year. Staff is informed of changes in guidelines and regulations that will be in place for the New Year. In-Service training is provided throughout the program year to keep staff abreast of new ideas and changes. Parent training will be provided in all program areas and community resources. Parents are invited to attend Pre-Service and In-Service training.

SCHEDULED HOLIDAYS



Labor Day	September 3
Veterans Day	November 12
Thanksgiving Break	November 19-23
Christmas Break	December 24-January 2
Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday	January 21
Mardi Gras	February 11- 13
Presidents Day	February 18
Good Friday	March 29
Spring Break	April 1-5



**ANNOUNCING SCHOOL CLOSING IN BAD
WEATHER**

RADIO/TELEVISION STATIONS

WJZD 94.5

WLOX TELEVISION CHANNEL 13

CHILD CARE REGULATIONS SUMMARY FOR PARENTS

Dear Parents,

The *Regulations Governing Licensure of Child Care Facilities* requires that childcare providers supply you with a summary of the Child Care Regulations that govern the licensure of childcare facilities. You will find that information listed below.

The Child Care Regulations are the rules and regulations that each child care facility in Mississippi must follow in order to maintain their Child Care License. You, as a parent, are entitled access to these regulations. Among the subjects covered in the Child Care Regulations are:

Licensing Requirements	Buildings and Grounds	Children with Special Needs
Right of Entry and Violations	Health, Hygiene and Safety	Night Care
Facility Policies and Procedures	Nutrition and Meals	School Age Care
Personnel Requirements	Discipline and Guidance	Summer Day Camp & School Age Programs
Records	Transportation	Hourly Child Care
Reports	Diapering and Toileting	Hearing Emergency Suspensions
Staff Requirements	Rest Periods	Legal Action and Penalties
Program of Activities	Feeding of Infants and Toddlers	Release of Information
Equipment, Toys and Materials	Swimming and Water Activities	

APPENDICES

Appendix A – Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Status	Appendix B – Reporting Diseases
Appendix C – Nutritional Standards	Appendix D – Playground Safety
Appendix E – Dishwashing Procedure	Appendix F – Hand washing Procedure
Appendix G –Diaper Changing Procedure	Appendix H- Cleaning and Disinfections Procedure
Appendix I – Communicable Disease/Conditions and Return to Child Care Guidelines	

A full copy of the Child Care Regulations should be located in the Director's Office of your childcare facility. It should be available for your examination upon request. You may also access the Regulations at www.msdhstate.ms.us, (go to Websites by Program, then Child Care Licensure.) You may direct your questions to your local licensing official Anessa Pace , or Annie Walters (228) 867-6236) or you may contact the Child Care Licensure office in Jackson at (601) 364-2827.

Should you have a complaint concerning a childcare facility, contact the licensing official listed above or call the Child Care Licensure office, toll free, at 1-866-489-8734.

F. E. Thompson, Jr., MD, MPH, State Health Officer
Post Office Box 1700—Jackson, MS 39215-1700

NOTICE OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

Practicing preventive health care is a good way to ensure that your child gets a great head start. At Gulf Coast Community Action Agency, Inc. Head Start, we believe that healthy children, physically, developmentally, and mentally, are children who are ready to learn. During the first forty-five days of enrollment, with parental consent, a child will receive the following screenings:

- Growth assessment (height and weight measurements)
- Vision and hearing screenings
- Developmental, cognitive, and speech screenings
- Behavioral screening

The screenings will be administered to identify any hidden developmental or health concerns that may have a negative affect on a child's ability to learn. The results of the screenings will be combined to determine how the Head Start staff can best meet the individual needs of each child enrolled in the program.

In event that the results from the screenings reveal that further testing is needed to determine whether the child is functioning appropriately for his/her age level, the parent/guardian will be notified when follow-up services are needed.

Parents or guardians have the primary responsibility for ensuring the overall health and development of a child. As primary care givers, you have the right to refuse or deny any services offered by the Head Start Program or any agency affiliated with the Head Start Program. However, as advocates for all children, the agency encourages parents to play an active role in helping to maintain a child's well being by making sure that a child receives any professionally recommended services while enrolled in the program.

As A Parent You Have The Right To:

- Attend/participate in any conferences/meetings concerning your child
- Refuse services offered to your child
- View your child's record at your request
- Give your in-put at any time concerning your child's education or services being provided to your child/family
- Meet with staff concerning additional concerns, requests, and needs you may have
- Ask questions when you don't fully understand something that is being said or done
- Visit your child's Head Start center at any time

Parent Advocacy



An Advocate is

- “One who pleads the cause of another
- One who champions a cause in which he/she believes very strongly;
- One who intercedes for another;
- One who defends a cause;
- One who speaks up for others”

Parents as advocates for their children:

- Advocates know how to influence others,
- Take side on an issue, state supporting reasons, and
- Try to get others to agree to support that position.

Advocacy at your child’s center:

Show your child that you value his/her education

Attend Head Start Events

Join different Parent Organizations

Meet regularly with your child/children’s teachers

Proof of Insurance Coverage

Gulf Coast community Action Agency, Inc. has coverage for General Liability Insurance and Vehicle Insurance with the following carriers:

St. Paul Travelers
One Tower Square
Hartford, CT 06183

General Liability Policy # P-660-935K1618

Vehicle coverage Policy # Y-810-935K1631

Information relating to claims should be reported to the Center Manger or to Head Start Administration at 228-896-1409

Name & Addresses	Telephone Numbers	
<u>GULF COAST RESCUE MISSION</u>	228	388-3884
<u>2750 MISSION LANE</u>		
<u>BILOXI, MS</u>		
<u>GULF COAST WOMEN'S CENTER</u>	228	875-5433
<u>OPEN 24 HOURS</u>		
<u>SHELTER FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN</u>		
<u>(LOCATION CONFIDENTIAL)</u>		
<u>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT</u>	228	436-3809
<u>CONTACT SANDRA MORRISON</u>		
<u>CENTER FOR PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE</u>	601	359-4991
<u>HOTLINE</u>	1-800	222-8000
<u>MISSISSIPPI REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY</u>		
<u>GULFPORT</u>	228	863-6272
<u>10430 THREE RIVERS ROAD</u>		
<u>GULFPORT, MS</u>		
<u>BILOXI</u>	228	374-7770
<u>330 BENACHI AVE.</u>	228	374-7771
<u>BILOXI, MS</u>		
<u>LONG BEACH</u>	228	863-8256
<u>102 NORTH GIRARD</u>		
<u>LONG BEACH, MS</u>		

<u>MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF MEDICAID</u>	228	863-3328
<u>12231 BENARD PARK</u>		
<u>GULFPORT, MS</u>		
<u>MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES</u>	228	897-5790
<u>10260 LARKIN SMITH ROAD</u>		
<u>GULFPORT, MS 39503</u>		
<u>MORNING STAR PREGNANCY CENTER</u>	228	864-4221
<u>2204 24TH AVE.</u>		
<u>GULFPORT, MS</u>		
<u>SOUTH MISSISSIPPI AIDS TASK FORCE</u>		
<u>2756 FERNWOOD ROAD</u>		
<u>BILOXI, MS</u>		
<u>COASTAL FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS</u>	228	864-0003
<u>GULFPORT CLINIC</u>	228	863-9781
<u>15024 MLK JR. BLVD</u>	228	864-7865 WIC
<u>GULFPORT, MS</u>		
<u>PASS CHRISTIAN CLINIC</u>	228	452-6284
<u>218 SAUCIER AVE.</u>		
<u>PASS CHRISTIAN, MS</u>		
<u>SAUCIER CLINIC</u>	228	832-7223
<u>23453 CENTRAL DR.</u>		
<u>SAUCIER, MS</u>		

<u>BILOXI CLINIC</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>374-4993</u>
<u>1001 DIVISION ST</u>		
<u>BILOXI, MS</u>		
<u>HARRISON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT</u>		
<u>BILOXI</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>435-3641</u>
<u>761 ESTERS BLVD</u>		
<u>BILOXI, MS</u>		
<u>GULFPORT, MS</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>863-1036</u>
<u>1102 45TH AVE,</u>		
<u>GULFPORT, MS</u>		
<u>WIN JOB CENTER GULFPORT</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>897-6900</u>
<u>10162 SEAWAY ROAD</u>		
<u>GULFPORT, MS</u>		
<u>WIN JOB CENTER BAY ST. LOUIS</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>466-5041</u>
<u>3060 LONGFELLOW DR.</u>		
<u>BAY ST. LOUIS, MS</u>		
<u>WIN JOB CENTER BILOXI</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>388-7997</u>
<u>2306 PASS ROAD</u>		
<u>BILOXI, MS</u>		

Children Learn What They Live

By Dorothy Law Nolte, Ph.D.

If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn.

If children live with hostility, they learn to fight.

If children live with fear, they learn to be apprehensive.

If children live with pity, they learn to feel sorry for themselves.

If children live with ridicule, they learn to feel shy.

If children live with jealousy, they learn to feel envy.

If children live with shame, they learn to feel guilty.

If children live with encouragement, they learn confidence.

If children live with tolerance, they learn patience.

If children live with praise, they learn appreciation.

If children live with acceptance, they learn to love.

If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves.

If children live with recognition, they learn it is good to have a goal.

If children live with sharing, they learn generosity.

If children live with honesty, they learn truthfulness.

If children live with fairness, they learn justice.

If children live with kindness and consideration, they learn respect.

If children live with security, they learn to have faith in themselves and in those about them.

If children live with friendliness, they learn the world is a nice place in which to live.



